GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4338
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2007
PRODUCTION OF CHILLIES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum and variety of chillies produced in various States particularly in Orissa during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the details of domestic demand of chillies in the country during the said period;

(c) whether farmers are suffering losses in the sale of chillies in the market ; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide relief to the farmers and increase the production of chillies in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): A statement showing the details of State-wise production of chillies during last three years and different trade varieties of chillies produced in various States is annexed in Annexure − I & II, respectively.

(b) As per available statistics on production, import and export of chillies it is estimated that about 9.00 lakh tones of chillies are consumed annually in the country.

(c) No Sir. The average price of chillies has gone up from Rs.25 per kg in 2005-06 to Rs.50 per kg in 2006-07 an increase of 100% in Guntur, the major marketing centre. Prices of cold storage chillies in Guntur market for the week ending 13.4.2007 was reported as Rs.50 per kg against Rs.34 per kg during the same period of last year.

(d) Several Development Programmes on chillies were implemented under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes and State Sector Schemes in the major centres of cultivation. The efforts in this regard have been intensified through the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) launched by Government of India since 2005-06. The mission programmes are aimed at increasing production, productivity and quality of chillies produced in the country to meet the growing demand in the domestic as well as export market. Major among them is the production of chilli seeds of high yielding and export oriented varieties specific to different agro climatic conditions and distribution through State Department nurseries and other selected private nurseries for their wide coverage in the area expansion programme.